

By the Committees on Rules and Calendar; Ethics and Elections; and Senator Rossin

305-1789-01

1 Senate Joint Resolution No. ____
2 A joint resolution proposing amendments to
3 Section 15 of Article III and Section 4 of
4 Article VI of the State Constitution; revising
5 the terms of office for certain elected
6 constitutional officers; providing for
7 staggered terms of office; revising limitations
8 on the number of consecutive years during which
9 certain elected constitutional officers may
10 hold office.

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12 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 That the following amendments to Section 15 of Article
15 III and Section 4 of Article VI of the State Constitution are
16 agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state
17 for approval or rejection at the next general election or an
18 earlier special election specifically authorized by law for
19 that purpose and, if approved, shall take effect January 1,
20 2006:

21 ARTICLE III
22 LEGISLATURE

23 SECTION 15. Terms and qualifications of legislators.--
24 (a) SENATORS. Senators shall be elected for terms of
25 six four years, ~~those from odd-numbered districts in the years~~
26 ~~the numbers of which are multiples of four and those from~~
27 ~~even-numbered districts in even-numbered years the numbers of~~
28 ~~which are not multiples of four; except, at the election next~~
29 following a reapportionment, some senators shall be elected
30 for terms of two years or four years when necessary to
31 maintain staggered terms. Senators from districts the number

1 of which is a multiple of three shall be elected in each
2 even-numbered year that is a multiple of three, senators from
3 all other even-numbered districts shall be elected in the
4 second year following each even-numbered year that is a
5 multiple of three, and senators from all other odd-numbered
6 districts shall be elected in the fourth year following each
7 even-numbered year that is a multiple of three.

8 (b) REPRESENTATIVES. Members of the house of
9 representatives shall be elected for terms of four ~~two~~ years,
10 those from odd-numbered districts in the years the numbers of
11 which are multiples of four and those from even-numbered
12 districts in even-numbered years the numbers of which are not
13 multiples of four; except, at the election next following a
14 reapportionment, some representatives shall be elected for
15 terms of two years when necessary to maintain staggered terms
16 in each even-numbered year.

17 (c) QUALIFICATIONS. Each legislator shall be at least
18 twenty-one years of age, an elector and resident of the
19 district from which elected and shall have resided in the
20 state for a period of two years prior to election.

21 (d) ASSUMING OFFICE; VACANCIES. Members of the
22 legislature shall take office upon election. Vacancies in
23 legislative office shall be filled only by election as
24 provided by law.

ARTICLE VI

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 4. Disqualifications.--

28 (a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in
29 this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be
30 qualified to vote or hold office until restoration of civil
31 rights or removal of disability.

1 (b) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election
2 to any of the following offices:

3 ~~(1) Florida representative,~~

4 ~~(2) Florida senator,~~

5 (1)~~(3)~~ Florida Lieutenant governor,

6 (2)~~(4)~~ any office of the Florida cabinet,

7 (3)~~(5)~~ U.S. Representative from Florida, or

8 (4)~~(6)~~ U.S. Senator from Florida

9
10 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
11 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in
12 that office for eight consecutive years.

13 (c) No person may appear on the ballot for reelection
14 to the office of Florida representative or Florida senator if,
15 by the end of the current term of office, the person will have
16 served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in that
17 office for twelve consecutive years.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
19 placed on the ballot:

20 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

21 ARTICLE III, SECTION 15

22 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

23 TERMS OF OFFICE AND TERM LIMITS.--Proposing amendments
24 to the State Constitution, effective January 1, 2006, to
25 increase the terms of office for Florida Senators from 4 years
26 to 6 years and for Florida Representatives from 2 years to 4
27 years; and to increase, from 8 years to 12 years, the number
28 of consecutive years during which a Florida Representative and
29 Florida Senator may hold office.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
CS for SJR 488

The committee substitute changes the date of implementation
from January 1, 2011, to January 1, 2006.